

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~providing notification of a privacy level~~ a web server, comprising:

determining a plurality of user information collection levels that may be implemented by said web server, wherein each user information collection level relates to a type of information that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and the web server ~~levels of privacy;~~

receiving a request for a web page from a user, said request including an indication of one or more of user information collection levels that are acceptable to said user;

determining one user information collection level of said plurality of ~~privacy~~ levels that applies to a first interaction conducted by a user based on the indication of the one or more information collection levels that are acceptable to said user; and

providing said requested web page to said user, said web page including a notification of said one of said ~~determined plurality~~ user information collection level ~~of privacy levels to said user~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

providing an indication to said user of the determined user information collection level prior to providing said requested web page; and

receiving from said user a consent to provide said requested web page in accordance with said determined user information collection level. ~~The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a plurality of levels of privacy includes at least one of the following:~~

~~_____ establishing said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~_____ receiving an indication of said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~selecting said plurality of privacy levels from privacy levels previously indicated by said user to be acceptable to said user;~~

~~selecting said plurality of privacy levels from privacy levels previously indicated to be acceptable to a party involved in said first interaction;~~
~~receiving an indication from said user of a group of privacy levels acceptable to said user and selecting said plurality of privacy levels from said group of privacy levels;~~
~~receiving an indication from a party involved in said first interaction of a group of privacy levels acceptable to said party and selecting said plurality of privacy levels from said group of privacy levels;~~
~~receiving a request from a party to conduct each interaction involving said party in accordance with at least one of said plurality of privacy levels; and~~
~~receiving a request from said user to conduct each interaction involving said user in accordance with at least one of said plurality of privacy levels.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining one of said plurality of privacy levels user information collection levels that applies to a first interaction conducted by a user includes at least one of the following:

~~determining if any of said plurality of privacy levels were previously indicated by said user as being acceptable;~~

~~determining if any of said plurality of privacy levels were previously indicated as being acceptable by a party involved in said transaction;~~

identifying at least one privacy level user information collection level from said plurality of user information collection privacy levels that was applied during a previous interaction involving said user;

~~identifying at least one privacy level from said plurality of privacy levels that was applied during a previous interaction involving a party involved in said first interaction;~~

~~providing an indication to said user of a selection of said one of said plurality of privacy levels and receiving from said user a consent to conduct said first interaction in accordance with said selected one of said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~providing an indication to a party involved in said interaction of a selection of said one of said plurality of privacy levels and receiving from said party a consent to conduct said first interaction in accordance with said selected one of said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~receiving a request from said user to conduct said first interaction in accordance with said one of said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~receiving a request from said user to conduct said first interaction in accordance with a minimum privacy requirement and determining one of said plurality of privacy levels that at least meets said minimum requirement; and~~

~~receiving a request from said user to conduct said first interaction in accordance with a specific requirement and determining one of said plurality of privacy levels that complies with said specific requirement.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing a notification of said ~~one of said plurality of determined user information collection~~ privacy levels to said user includes at least one of the following:

~~providing said notification as said user conducts said first interaction;~~

~~providing said notification prior to said user conducting said first interaction;~~

~~providing said notification after said user conducts said first interaction;~~

~~providing an indication to said user of a selection of said one of said plurality of privacy levels and receiving from said user a consent to conduct said first interaction in accordance with said selected one of said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~providing said notification prior to providing a Web page associated with said first interaction;~~

~~providing said notification prior to allowing said user to receive a Web page associated with said first interaction;~~

~~delaying said first~~an interaction until said user receives said notification;

~~delaying said first~~an interaction until said user confirms receipt of said notification;

~~delaying said first interaction until said user consents to said one of said plurality of privacy levels;~~

~~providing said notification to a device associated with said user;~~

~~providing said notification to a device being used by said user during said first interaction~~to transmit the request; and

providing a communication indicative of said one of said plurality of user information collection privacy-levels to software being used by said user ~~during said first interaction.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said first interaction conducted by a user includes~~ the request is received in conjunction with at least one of the following:

- said user conducting a transaction with a service provider;
- said user making a purchase;
- said user accessing a Web site;
- said user using a feature of a Web site;
- said user downloading data from a Web site; and
- said user providing data to a Web site.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said notification includes at least one of the following:

- an identifier associated with said user;
- an identifier associated with ~~said first interaction~~ the request;
- a user information collection privacy-level identifier;
- a cookie;
- information regarding said plurality of user information collection privacy-levels;
- information regarding said ~~one of said plurality of~~ determined user information collection privacy-levels;
- a message indicative of said ~~one of said plurality of~~ determined user information collection privacy-levels;
- a message displayable by software operating on a device used by said user ~~during said first interaction~~ to transmit the request;
- an image displayable by software operating on a device used by said user to transmit the request ~~during said first interaction~~; and
- an image indicative of said ~~one of said plurality of~~ determined user information collection privacy-levels.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one of the following:
receiving a confirmation of receipt of said notification by said user;
receiving a confirmation of receipt of said notification by a device associated with said user;
receiving a confirmation of receipt of said notification by software used by said user ~~during said first interaction.~~
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a notification indicative of a change of level-user information collection level of privacy ~~during said first interaction.~~
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a request to change a level-user information collection level of privacy ~~associated with said first interaction.~~
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of said plurality of the~~ determined levels-user information collection levels of privacy includes at least one of the following:
a requirement that said user be informed of user data received by a party involved in said ~~first~~ an interaction;
a requirement that said user be informed of a retention of user data received by a party involved in ~~said first~~ an interaction;
a requirement that said user be informed of a use of user data received by a party involved in ~~said first~~ an interaction; and
a requirement that said user be informed of a disclosure of user data received by a party involved in ~~said first~~ an interaction.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing said notification to a party ~~involved in said first interaction.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of user information collection privacy-levels is based on, at least in part, at least one of the following:

- a prior request received from said user ~~prior to said first interaction;~~
- ~~a request received from said user during said first interaction;~~
- a request received from a service provider ~~involved in said first interaction;~~
- a type of data that may be provided during an interaction;
- ~~a type of data that may be provided by said user;~~
- ~~a type of data that may be received during an interaction;~~
- ~~a use of data provided by said user;~~
- a request from said user regarding data provided by said user ~~during said first interaction;~~
- a requirement of said user regarding data provided by said user ~~during said first interaction;~~
- a disclosure of data provided by said user;
- ~~a party to which data received from a user may be provided; and~~
- ~~a use of data provided by said user.~~

13. – 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- determining a second of said plurality of user information collection privacy levels ~~that applies to a second interaction conducted by said user;~~ and
- providing a notification of said second of said plurality of user information collection privacy-levels to said user.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- changing a level user information collection level ~~of privacy applied to said first interaction during said first interaction;~~ and
- providing a notification to said user of ~~a~~ the change in level of user information collection privacy applied to said first interaction.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
conducting ~~said a~~ first interaction in accordance with said ~~one of said plurality of determined~~ user information collection privacy levels.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
terminating ~~said first an~~ interaction if said ~~first~~ interaction cannot be conducted in accordance with said ~~one of said plurality of determined~~ user information collection privacy levels.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing a notification to said user if ~~said first an~~ interaction cannot be conducted in accordance with said ~~one of said plurality of determined~~ user information collection privacy levels.
23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
allowing said user to modify at least one of said plurality of user information collection privacy levels.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
modifying at least one of said plurality of user information collection privacy levels.
25. (Cancelled)
26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said providing a notification includes at least one of the following:
providing a notification during that the web server is not complying with said user information collection level;
providing a notification that the web server did not comply with said user information collection level during an interaction;

providing a notification that the web server did comply with said user information collection level during an interaction;

providing a notification that the web server is complying with said user information collection level;

allowing said user involved to retrieve information regarding said determination;

providing a notification that a party exceeds said user information collection level if it is determined that said party exceeds said user information collection level; and

providing a notification that said party does not exceeds said user information collection level if it is determined that said party does not exceed said user information collection level.

~~The method of claim 1, wherein said determining one of a plurality of privacy levels that applies to a first interaction occurs after said interaction.~~

27. - 44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) A computer program in a computer readable medium for providing notification of a ~~privacy~~user information collection level, comprising:

~~first instructions for receiving data indicative of a level of privacy involved in an interaction; and~~

~~second instructions for displaying on a device a notification indicative of said level of privacy.~~

first instructions for determining a plurality of user information collection levels that may be implemented by the web server, wherein each user information collection level relates to a type of information that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and the web server;

second instructions for receiving a request for a web page from a user, the request including an indication of one or more of user information collection levels that are acceptable to said user;

third instructions for determining one user information collection level of said plurality of levels based on the indication of the one or more information collection levels that are acceptable to said user; and

fourth instructions for providing the requested web page to the user, the web page including a notification of said determined user information collection level.

46. (Currently Amended) The computer program of claim 45, wherein said level of ~~privacy~~user information collection is one of a plurality of possible levels of ~~privacy~~user information collection for which notifications can be displayed on said device.

47. (Currently Amended) A system for providing notification of a ~~privacy~~user information collection level, comprising:

a memory;

a communication port; and

a processor connected to said memory and said communication port, said processor being operative to:

determine a plurality of user information collection levels that may be implemented by a web server;

receive a request for a web page from a user, the request including an indication of one or more of user information collection levels that are acceptable to said user, wherein each user information collection level relates to a type of information that may be collected from or about a prospective user during a future interaction between the prospective user and the web server;

determine one user information collection level of said plurality of levels based on the indication of the one or more information collection levels that are acceptable to said user; and

provide the requested web page to the user, the web page including a notification of said determined user information collection level

~~..determine a plurality of levels of privacy;~~

~~determine one of said plurality of privacy levels that applies to a first interaction conducted by a user; and~~

~~provide a notification regarding said one of said plurality of privacy levels to said user.~~

48. - 50. (Cancelled)